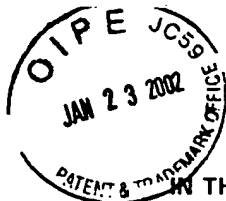


HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400



PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10980297-1

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Robert Luffel, et al.

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: 09/371,708

Examiner: David D. Davis

Filing Date: 08-09-99

Group Art Unit: 2652

Title: Laterally Expandable Modular Data Storage System

RECEIVED

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 05 2002

Technology Center 2600

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
(X) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Box Non-Fee Amendments")
() Other: (fee \$)

| CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| (1) FOR | (2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | (3) NUMBER EXTRA | (4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | (5) PRESENT EXTRA | (6) RATE | (7) ADDITIONAL FEES |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 23 | MINUS | 23 | = 0 | X \$18 | \$ 0 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | 4 | MINUS | 4 | = 0 | X \$84 | \$ 0 |
| [] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM | | | | | + \$280 | \$ 0 |
| EXTENSION FEE | 1ST MONTH \$110.00 | 2ND MONTH \$400.00 | 3RD MONTH \$920.00 | 4TH MONTH \$1440.00 | | \$ 0 |
| OTHER FEES | | | | | | \$ |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT | | | | | | \$ 0 |

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 08-2025. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16 through 1.21 inclusive, and any other sections in Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations that may regulate fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: 12-18-2001

Typed Name: Bruce E. Dahl

Signature:

Respectfully submitted,

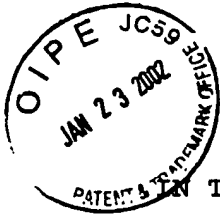
Robert Luffel, et al.

By

Bruce E. Dahl

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 33,670

Date: 12-18-2001



#9/BCN.E
W. Lawson
2/16/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Luffel, et al.) Group Art Unit: 2652
Serial No.: 09/371,708) Examiner: David D. Davis
Filing Date: 8/9/99)
For: LATERALLY EXPANDABLE MODULAR)
DATA STORAGE SYSTEM)

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

To The Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 11/5/01, Paper No. 8 (hereinafter, the "Final Office Action"), please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In The Claims:

The claims are amended. Pursuant to rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c), the applicants present rewritten claims in "clean form" below, and also submit herewith as an Appendix, a "marked-up" version of the rewritten claims that shows the changes made to the claims. The changes in the Appendix are shown by brackets for deleted matter and by underlining for added matter.

Please amend claims 1, 11, and 23 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A modular data storage system for handling and storing data cartridges, comprising:
 - a) a cartridge access device;